

The Advisory Council For Technical-Vocational Education In Texas

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Vol. VIII, Number 10, November 1977

Private Enterprise, DECA Highlight ACTIVE Meeting

"What the Free Enterprise System Means to My Future," and "DECA and Vocational Education," were the titles of presentations given by two Del Valle High School Distributive Education students at the ACTIVE's October 7 meeting in Austin.

Speaking on private enterprise, David Oswalt stressed it is important for a country to have a system where labor and management will be able to function properly and work together; where people have the freedom to start new businesses; where we have the ability to negotiate our wages and working conditions; where companies can compete in their prices which will give the consumer the best buy.

"The basis of our wealth is hard work and the American Private Enterprise System," said Oswalt. "I intend to be a part of private enterprise. My future and the future of your children depend on it."

Bobby DeSpain, state president of DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America), noted that DECA, like other vocational youth organizations, supplements vocational training through competitive events, leadership training, research manuals, chapter projects,

social functions, and other activities.

He went on to say that "DECA increases the student's chances for future success by giving him or her the opportunity to meet influential business, civic, and government leaders at conferences, employer-

employee banquets, etc. These people can help young people progress in a career."

In summing up his remarks, DeSpain said that "a main advantage a DECA member receives is "they get a head start in the business world."

71% of Post-Secondary Grads Find Jobs Related to Training

Information generated by the Texas Student Information System (Tex-SIS) reveals that 71 percent of the post-secondary vocational graduates followed-up on in the fall of 1976 were employed full-time in a field closely or directly related to their training.

A total of 8,763 or 63 percent of a possible 13,958 students from 54 post-secondary reporting units were followed-up.

Twelve percent of the graduates were employed in jobs not related to their training. Six percent were unemployed but seeking work, while another seven percent were continuing education at a higher level.

Health Occupations led all program areas with the

highest number of graduates, available for employment, that were employed full-time in a closely or directly related field-88%.

Eighty-four percent of Technical graduates were employed full-time in a closely or directly related field. Among the other program areas, the percents were: Homemaking (80%); Agriculture (77%); Industrial (76%); Distribution (75%); Office (74%); and Related (65%).

Health Occupations had the fewest number of its graduates continuing education at a higher level-4%. Related (21%), Homemaking (14%), and Technical Education (13%), had the highest number of graduates continuing their education.

ACTIVE Looking at Voc-Ed Handicapped Programs

The ACTIVE's Adult Education and Special Services Committee is visiting selected school districts across Texas looking at efforts being made to provide vocational education programs to the handicapped.

Under state law, the ACTIVE is charged with recommending and evaluating innovative programs to meet the needs of physically or mentally handicapped persons.

During October, the Committee visited programs in the Klein and Conroe Independent School Districts. November visits are planned

Vocational Education Week

Slated for February 12-18

Vocational Education Week will be held February 12-18. The theme will be "Your Professional Commitment Builds the Skills of America."

A variety of materials are available through the American Vocational Association.

VEW materials include: posters, lapel buttons which read "I'm Committed to Vocational Education"; "how to do it" booklets complete with clip art; and multiple size adhesive stickers which can be put on brief cases and notebooks or used as bumper stickers.

Other materials available include: membership decals which say "I'm a Member of AVA"; membership certificates suitable for

(See VEW, page 4)

for Abilene, El Paso, Kingsville, and Austin.

ACTIVE Program Officer Angie Grace says "the Committee has been very impressed with the facilities, curriculum, inservice training, techniques for working with students, and the general overall atmos-

phere of love and understanding."

The Committee findings, coupled with conclusions and recommendations, will be published and made available to any interested person or group. They will also be submitted to the next legislature.

'Simulated Job Interviews'

Subject of Research Study

Michigan State University is testing a theory that "simulated job interviews help students prepare for the working world," according to a recent article in the Manpower and Vocational Education Weekly.

The theory, being tested on high school vocational students, is that "a student who bombs on a make-believe job interview in front of fellow students probably won't be flustered going through the real thing."

MSU is sponsoring workshops for voc-ed teachers, to help them help their students land jobs.

"There is a 180-degree difference between the amounts of responsibility, aggressiveness and dependability demanded of people in school, and the amounts demanded in the job market," says Clifford Jump, director of the MSU Institute of Agriculture Technology, which sponsors the workshops.

Jump says "the schools have been doing a good job of providing students with

technical training, but haven't been teaching students what potential employers expect of them, nor what the job market and the business world are like."

Eleven skills are taught to increase students' employability. Among the skills are interviewing, resume writing and cornering personnel managers for an interview.

The methods voc-ed teachers learn to get these across include the simulated job interview, skits, and role-playing.

For more information, write Eugene Trotter, project director, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, 121 Agriculture Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, 48823.

Voc-Ed Administration

Highlighted in Brochure

The ACTIVE has published a brochure, now available, that summarizes

(See Brochure, page 4)

Statewide Female Recruitment Project Underway

A new statewide project to recruit female students into vocational welding programs was kicked off recently in approximately 28 school districts across the state.

The project is being sponsored by the Texas Education Agency. TEA Occupational Education and Technology Department Consultant Margaret Lindsey says



The Texas Education Agency is sponsoring a statewide project to recruit females into welding programs.

Photo courtesy of Litton Industries

Future of Vocational Education Highlighted in Conference Papers

"Vocational education is first and foremost education for work. Effective education for work is not merely one item on a laundry list of national concern--it is a national imperative."

Congressman Albert H. Quie, chairman and ranking minority member, Committee on Education and Labor, U. S. House of Representatives, made this statement during his keynote address at last year's National Bicentennial Conference on

the agency will be undertaking many efforts over the next five years to eliminate sex stereotyping in vocational education programs and to expand the career opportunities for females.

Two premises that will be tested in the pilot project are:

- male vocational teachers can have a great deal of influence in personally encouraging young women to enroll in nontraditional vocational programs.

- increased public relations activities will make more young women aware of the welding program and cause them to seek out additional information about enrolling from teachers, counselors, or students.

Vocational Education, held in Minneapolis.

The remarks of Quie and 21 other leading experts from various fields, who spoke at the conference, are contained in "Papers from the Bicentennial Conference," published recently by the Center for Vocational Education at Ohio State University.

Each paper takes a future-oriented look at vocational education from the perspectives of business

(See PAPERS, page 4)

A recent study in another state has shown that a male vocational teacher can be the most influential person in encouraging a young woman to enroll in a nontraditional vocational program. The study showed that men teachers had more influence than counselors, administrators, or parents.

An important component of the project will be the preparation and dissemination of brochures, a slide-tape presentation, and other materials designed to recruit young women into welding.

A number of businesses, organizations, schools, and individuals have been contacted to assist in the development of materials for the welding recruitment project.

Groups who have responded with suggestions and materials for the project include the: Texas AFL-CIO, American Iron and Steel Institute, Airco Welding Products, Steel Founders' Society of America, Hobart School of Welding Technology, Alcan Aluminum Corporation, Lincoln Welding School, Miller Electric Manufacturing Company, and The Texas State Technical Institute.

U. S. Department of Labor statistics reveal that 9 out of 10 women will work at some time in their lives. Nearly half of the 34 million women in the labor force in March 1973 were working because of pressing economic need.

Statistics also reveal, however, that only five percent of all craft workers are women.

Bicentennial Voc-Ed Papers (Continued from page 3)

and industry, labor, economists, sociologists, experts on special needs pop-

Voc-Ed Week

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framing; and certificates of appreciation for awards presentations.

All of the materials can be used after VEW. Only the VEW poster contains preprinted dates which are shown on a portion which can be torn off so that the poster can be used at different times during the year.

All materials are available at cost plus postage. For a brochure highlighting the materials with cost information, contact the American Vocational Association, 1510 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

ulations, education policy makers, and others.

The papers provide valuable insight into the problems and issues facing voc-ed in the nation's third century. They should

Brochure

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the major emphasis of the Council's 8th Annual Report to the State Board of Education, submitted in October.

The brochure, entitled "Vocational Education: Who's Listening?", looks at the policy and administration of vocational education at the state level, and puts forth several recommendations.

To order copies of the brochure, contact the ACTIVE News.

prove of great interest to individuals involved in leadership development programs in general and specific areas of vocational, technical, adult, and career education.

The total package is \$10. Order stock number SN 14 from the Center for Vocational Education, CVE Publications, Ohio State University, 1960 Kennedy Road, Columbus, Ohio 43210.

Will Reece, editor: ACTIVE

NEWS is published monthly by the Advisory Council for Technical Vocational Education in Texas. It is the purpose of this newsletter to promote technical, vocational, adult, and manpower education, and to establish better lines of communications between business, industry, and education. Reader's comments are invited.

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